Translation

PATENT COOPERATION IREATY

PCT

11277/\$ INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATEN 2005.08.22.P101334

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

14665-KAM

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference | FOR FURTHER ACTION | See Form PCT/IPEA/416 | |
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| P142488 CH/JO/SB | International filing date (days | onshivear) Priority date (day/monah/year) | |
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| Applicant | CHRISOFTX AG e | | |
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Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant | CHRISOFTX AC | | | | |
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| Name and mailing address of the PEA/ | | Arjona Lopez, G | | | |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/CH2004/000109

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International application No.

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

international application No.

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| Novelty (N) | Clarison | 1-13 | YES |
| inventive step (IS) | Clause | 1-13 | YES |
| industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-13 | YES |
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- 2. Circuious and explanations (Rule 70.7)
 - 1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: WO-A-89/05620

- 2. The present application meets the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).
- 2.1 D1 (cf. page 2, lines 1-29; figures) discloses (the references in parentheses relate to said document): a device for analgesic immobilisation in the event of thorax or rib fractures, comprising a flat splint element (1) which covers a large area of the region of the break, the device having an adhesive layer (6) on the side facing the body that is suitable for adhering the immobilisation device to the body.
- 2.2 The subject matter of claim 1 differs therefore from the known device in that the flat splint element is intrinsically rigid.
- 3. The proclem addressed by the present invention can therefore be considered that of immobilising the ribs.
- 3.1 The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step for the following reasons (PCT Article 33(3)): that aim of D1 is quite different from that of the invention, namely allowing the ribs to move freely, and the flat splint element is not rigid in at least one direction. It would therefore not be obvious for a person skilled in the art to proceed from said document and make the splint element fully rigid.
- 4. Claims 2-13 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT novelty and inventive step requirements.